

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action that issued October 22, 2003. In light of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and removal of the grounds for rejection are respectfully requested.

The specification is amended herein to correct obvious typographical and grammatical errors noted upon review of the application. No new matter is added by these amendments and entrance thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 were pending in this application. Claim 3 is canceled herein, without prejudice and Claim 8 is added. Claims 1, 6, 7, and 8 are independent claims. The Applicants would like to that the Examiner for the indication that Claims 3, 6-7 contain allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form.

The subject matter indicated as allowable in Claim 3 has been incorporated into independent Claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that Claim 1 be allowed. Further, Claims 2, 4, and 5 depend from Claim 1 and are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained therein. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that Claims 2, 4, and 5 also be allowed.


Claims 6 and 7 are submitted herein in independent form. Accordingly, allowance of Claims 6 and 7 is respectfully requested. Claim 8 is amended herein to contain at least one of the elements

indicated as allowable from Claims 1, 6, and 7. It is therefore respectfully requested that Claim 8 also be allowed. Newly submitted Claim 9 is dependent on Claim 8 and is allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained therein. Allowance of Claim 9 is therefore respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees which may be necessitated by entrance of this amendment, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

This amendment places the instant application in condition for immediate allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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January 22, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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On January 22, 2004  
By Noemi Chaga